

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10

CPR-01 NIC-01 /076 W

----- 079838

O R 071242Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6169

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0030

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BC, CH, SF

SUBJ: BOTSWANA ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH COM-
MUNIST CHINA

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TIBONE CALLED JANUARY 7 TO
INFORM AMBASSADOR THAT GOB AND COMMUNIST CHINA HAD DECIDED
TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. TIBONE SAID THE AGREEMENT
WOULD BE ANNOUNCED IN GABORONE AND PEKING LATER TODAY. HE
COMMENTED THAT GOB HAD BEEN GIVING CONSIDERATION TO ESTAB-
LISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRC FOLLOWING THE WITH-
DRAWAL OF RECOGNITION FROM TAIWAN LAST YEAR (SEE GABORONE 0721;
GABORONE 0478).

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2. TIBONE SAID HE WAS NOT SURE THAT THE PRC WOULD ESTABLISH A RESIDENT DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN GABORONE; IT WAS ENTIRELY UP TO THEM. TIBONE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT THE CHICOMS WOULD WANT TO ESTABLISH A MISSION IN GABORONE RATHER THAN HAVE THEIR AMBASSADOR IN LUSAKA ACCREDITED HERE.

3. TIBONE RECOGNIZED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT BE PLEASED BY THE GOB MOVE IN FORMALIZING RECOGNITION OF THE PRC AND ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE GOB EXPECTS SOUTH AFRICAN REACTION TO BE GUARDED AND NOT HOSTILE. HE SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA ANTICIPATED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS FOLLOWING THE BREAK WITH TAIWAN. TIBONE HOPED THAT SOUTH AFRICA AND OTHERS WOULD UNDERSTAND THE GOB DESIRE TO DIVERSIFY ITS EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
BOLEN

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Message Attributes

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